



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

June 4, 2008

To: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina, First District
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Third District
Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Fifth District

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "WTF", followed by a stylized flourish.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

COMMUNITY-BASED MENTORING CONTRACTS

Consistent with your Board's February 21, 2006 directive to match every child in out-of-home care placement with a mentor by the year 2010, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requested that approximately \$2.0 million in contracts to provide mentor-youth relationships be placed on your Board's agenda. The community-based agreements are designed to provide foster youth with an easier and more successful transition out of the child welfare system into independence. While we support the Department's goal to develop a mentorship program for children in out-of-home care, due to the fiscal uncertainty of the State's budget we are not recommending your Board's approval of these new contracts at this time.

Funding was allocated as the State Services Outcome Improvement Project (SOIP) augmentation and appropriated from social services trailer bill AB 1808. DCFS' spending plan for the SOIP was approved by your Board on January 16, 2007 and included 329 additional positions to reduce children's social worker caseload. It also included approximately \$2.5 million to finance the cost of mentoring services for youth in out-of-home care or at risk of placement in out-of-home care.

On May 28, 2008, when we informed your staff of our recommendations not to move forward with these agreements at this time, a representative from one of the mentoring contractors protested any further delays in the County's implementation. Based on the contractor's comments, we wanted to notify your Board of our recommendations immediately should you receive any public

Each Supervisor
June 4, 2008
Page 2

inquiries and/or requests to approve the contracts prior to the outcome of the final State budget. We directed the Department to officially inform the contractors of this action.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Miguel Santana at (213) 974-4530.

WTF:SRH:MS
GP:BM:cvb

c: Department of Children and Family Services
Probation Department

Mentoring4.doc